

**3T News**

### **Keenooshayo Elementary**

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****Wow, our first week together as a class flew by! We had a fun and busy time getting to know each other, exploring our new classroom, and learning our new routines. Thank you to all of you who stopped by to lend a helping hand or to just say hello. I have felt truly welcomed at Keenooshayo!

**Stay Connected!**

Thank you for your patience and support during this time of transition while I slowly get things up and running!

I now have email and can be reached at *tara.talwar@spschools.org*in addition to agenda notes and by calling the school.

I have also started making a class website at <http://mstalwar.weebly.com>.

Right now you can download this and last weeks’ newsletters just in case your copy did not make it home to you. Soon you will be able to find more information on what we are learning as well as photos of the kids!

**Volunteers**

I have collected any information you may have provided to Mrs. Bordian and Mrs. MacKenzie about your interest in volunteering. If you would like to volunteer in the classroom but did not submit any forms to the other grade 3 teachers please let me know.

**Home Reading**

Daily home reading is one of the foundations for student success in school. To support reading at home, beginning this week your child will be able to choose a book from our classroom library to take home in the communication pocket. A huge thank you to Mrs. U who levelled all the books in our classroom library over the long weekend allowing us to get started this week! Although books may not need to be changed every day, please remember to **send the home reading book back to school in the communication pocket every day**. This allows me to keep track of who is reading what as I do not yet have a check-out system. It also allows students to continue to read the books at school.

**Reading Log**

****Attached to this newsletter is the reading log for October. This is not exclusive to the home reading books and can be used to record any books read, including those from the school library, public library, and your home library. You can go back and fill in last week’s totals. Don’t worry if you can’t remember the exact names of the books!

**The goal this year is to read a minimum of 15 minutes per day at home.**

**Care of Books**

Please teach and support your child to take good care of the home reading books. Things like making sure hands are clean, not folding books or stuffing them bent up in backpacks, and not eating with books, may need to be demonstrated and practiced. Most of the books coming home are from my personal collection. Lost or damaged books must be replaced by the parent so that the program may continue.

**Supporting Grade 3 Readers: A Few Tips for Parents**

* While grade 3 students will be reading more and more by themselves, continue to reserve time during the week in which you read together. This makes home reading a positive “cuddle-up” time your child will look forward to. Listen to your child read aloud to regularly check in on their progress.
* Don’t stop reading ***to*** your child as well. Listening to fluent reading done by an adult is essential to continued reading development.
* When faced with a challenging word, give your child time to try working it out on their own. Know when your child may be getting frustrated and when to step in by providing a hint or other guidance.
* Encourage your child to talk about their home reading books as much as possible. This might include having them make predictions as they go along, connect the story to something that happened to them, think about how the characters feel and why they are doing what they are doing, and retell the story in their own words.
* Don’t worry if your child chooses to read the same books over and over again. **Repeated readings** help build comprehension and reading fluency!
* When reading by themselves, your child should choose a book of which they know about 99-100% of the words. When reading with an adult, they can read a chapter book where they need help on up to 5 words per page. If they need help on more than 5 words per page, the book is probably too difficult.

“Voracious readers are made, not born. No child is born loving baseball or pizza; they learn to like what they see their parents valuing.” Bernice E. Cullinan





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**We have read through and understand the home reading information.**

**We promise to reserve time to read at home each day.**

**We promise to take good care of the books and to replace lost or damaged books.**

**We promise to return the books to school each day in the communication pocket.**

**Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student Parent**